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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Ralf Strobel
Serial No. : 10/706,444
Filing Date : November 12, 2003
For : A BELT RETRACTOR
Art Unit : 3636
Examiner :
Attorney Docket : TRW(REPA)6861

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

1. Pursuant to 37 CFR \$1.97 and \$1.98, and in compliance with CFR \$1.56, the Office's attention is directed to the patents, pending applications, publications and other information listed on the attached PTO-1449. Applicant(s) make no admission that the documents are prior art to the present invention.
2. Regarding each listed document that is not in the English language, an English-language translation accompanies this Statement as indicated on the attached PTO-1449 or a corresponding U.S. Patent is enclosed, or an English abstract, or a concise explanation of the relevance of the document is set forth on an attached sheet.

3. Pursuant to 37 CFR \$1.97(b) this Statement is being filed (one must be checked):

- (a) ☐ Within three months of the filing date or date of entry into the National Stage.
- (b) ☒ Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
- (c) ☐ After the period set forth in 37 CFR \$1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.
 - 1) ☐ A certification is given below,
 - 2) ☐ Enclosed is a check covering the fee (\$180.00) set forth in \$1.17(p) for consideration of this Statement, or
 - 3) ☐ Charge the fee set forth in 37 CFR \$1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.
- (d) ☐ After the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee. The required certification and fee is indicated below.
 - 1) ☐ Enclosed is a check covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR \$1.17(p) \$180, or
 - 2) ☐ Charge the fee set forth in 37 CFR \$1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

4. Certification (if applicable):

- (a) ☒ The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

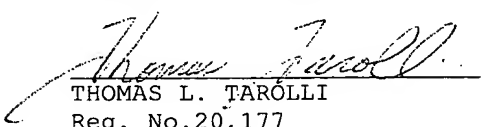
- (b) ☐ The undersigned hereby certifies that no item of information contained in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the undersigned's knowledge after making reasonable inquiry no item of information contained in the Statement, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR \$1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.
5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, fees underpaid, or credit any overpayment with regard to this Statement to Deposit Account No. 20-0090.
6. Concise Explanation (if needed):
- (1). ☒ Below is a Concise Statement of Relevance of enclosed non-English language document(s).

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DE 44 38 097 A1	Corres. to U.S. Patent No. 5,628,469 (copy enclosed)
DE 299 12 154 U1	Corres. to U.S. Patent No. 6,454,201 (copy enclosed)
DE 40 01 240 C2	See attached English abstract.
DE 201 09 534 U1	See attached English abstract.
WO 96/01751	Abstract in English

Respectfully submitted,


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Sheet ____ of ____

FORM PTO-1449
(REV. 6-89)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY DOCKET NO.
TRW(REPA)6861SERIAL NO.
10/706,444INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT*(Use several sheets if necessary)*

APPLICANT:

Ralf Strobel

FILING DATE:

11-12-03

GROUP:

3636

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,628,469	5/97	Fohl			
	6,454,201	9/02	Strobel et al			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	4438097	5/96	GERMANY				
	29912154	12/99	GERMANY				
	4001240	7/98	GERMANY				
	20109534	11/01	GERMANY				
	96/01751	1/96	PCT				

OTHER DOCUMENTS *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the patent owner.